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J2 Software says fiber system big draw to city

A community wide effort, sparked by former Mayor Steve Cope and highlighted by Tullahoma Utilities Board's high-speed Internet service, were critical factors in J2 Software Solutions' decision to base its headquarters in the Queen City.

Jerry Wright, J2 chief executive officer, said Thursday his limited liability corporation, now based in Moncks Corner, S.C., is tentatively planning to start its operations Oct. 1 at 217 Big Springs Ave., in a 6,000- square-foot building near Micro Craft's operations and next to the former Head Start building.

Wright said J2, which specializes in providing high-tech software to law enforcement agencies to handle dispatching, records management and other related functions, needed to have the highest speed, most dependable Internet service available.

He said TUB, through its LightTUBE broadband communications service, provides exactly what his company needs to thrive and expand.

"What LightTUBE has is top of the line," Wright said, adding that normal cable TV service and higher speed digital subscriber line, commonly referred to as DSL, were not adequate to meet the company's volume and demand.

"We deal with hundreds of public safety entities, and bandwidth and speed are extremely important to us," he said, adding that anything less would lead to "untold problems" for his company.

Wright said he knows Cope through the former mayor's work as director of business development and marketing for Avion Solutions Inc., based in Huntsville, Ala. He said Cope, who has an office in Tullahoma, had often talked about what a great place Tullahoma is to live and how it could show opportunity and promise for a J2 relocation.

by Brian Justice



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